

U. S. Department of Labor

Employment Standards Administration
Wage & Hour Division
300 Ala Moana Boulevard
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Honolulu HI 96850
Tel. (808) 541-1360
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July 6th, 2005

Pamela Bell Martin, Administrator
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Wage Standards Division
830 Punchbowl St., Room 340
Honolulu HI 96813

Dear Pamela B. Martin:

I would like to express my appreciation for the contributions of your office to the overall mission the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Wage Hour Division within the community of Hawaii.

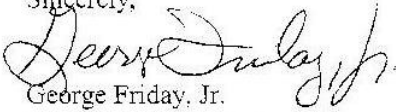
It should be noted that every year, millions of teens nationwide work in part-time and summer jobs. Early work experiences can be rewarding for young workers – providing great opportunities to learn job skills. Today's youth will be the workforce of the 21st century. One of the priorities of the U.S. Department of Labor is to safeguard this period of youth employment through the education and enforcement of the regulatory provisions that protect and prevent work injuries to minors under the age of 18. Additionally, we monitor the permissible hours of work for 14 and 15 year olds.

Within the past fiscal year, our Hawaii based investigator, Min Kirk, has met with members of your staff in regard to our participation, at your invitation, to the Castle High School Career and Job Fair – 2005 event. At this event we were able to provide compliance materials to attending employers, job-seeking minors, and the school's student counselors. We believe that this is a meaningful event that elevates an awareness of the regulations governing youth employment in Hawaii and may prevent violations through education.

I would also like to thank you for inviting our participation in two of your training seminars that you held for your staff in January and May of 2005. We look forward to future opportunities to discuss our statutes and its application to employers in the construction sector as well as those other industries in which our statutes apply. In understanding the limitations and applications of our labor laws, we may better understand when to accept a complaint or reference it to the appropriate agency.

It is clear that through the efforts of your staff, as well as your office leadership, an environment of cooperation exists between our agencies. We look forward to continuing our interagency relationship with your office.

Sincerely,


George Friday, Jr.
Regional Administrator

Cc: John Glyder, District Director
Terence J. Trotter, Assistant District Director